

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

SCCT-01 SY-05 DHA-02 IO-11 CU-04 /092 W

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R 130825Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6521

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHERAN

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 0158

E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: PFOR, SW, IR

SUBJECT: SWEDISH GOVERNMENT APPEALS FOR CLEMENCY IN IRANIAN DEATH  
SENTENCES

1. ACCORDING TO SWEDISH PRESS, MFA SECRETARY-GENERAL  
SVERKER ASTROM CALLED ON IRANIAN AMBASSADOR ISSA MALEK ON  
JANUARY 9 AND PRESENTED HIM WITH PLEA FOR CLEMENCY ON  
BEHALF OF 10 IRANIANS RECENTLY SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR  
TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. IN MAKING PLEA, ASTROM STRESSED  
SWEDISH OPPOSITION TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AND GOS EFFORTS  
TO OBTAIN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS TO ABOLISH DEATH PENALTY.

2. IN PROTEST AGAINST PLANNED EXECUTIONS, 15 IRANIAN  
STUDENTS HELD 60 HOUR HUNGER STRIKE IN LUND LAST WEEK.  
THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY SIT-IN AT LUND CATHEDRAL AFTER  
SUNDAY SERVICE. GROUP DEMANDED THAT (1) ARCHBISHOP OF  
SWEDISH STATE CHURCH SEND TELEGRAM TO IRANIAN PM  
HOVEYDA PROTESTING DEATH SENTENCES; (2) GOS SEND  
OBSERVER TO ATTEND POSSIBLE APPEALS COURT HEARING; AND  
(3) GOS SEND TEAM OF DOCTORS AND LAWYERS TO IRAN TO  
INVESTIGATE CONDITIONS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS.  
ARCHBISHOP TURNED DOWN DEMAND BUT DEAN OF LUND CATHEDRAL  
DID AGREE TO SEND PERSONAL MESSAGE TO IRANIAN EMBASSY,  
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AFTER WHICH STUDENTS THEN DISCONTINUED SIT-IN. ABOUT ONE

HUNDRED IRANIAN STUDENTS AND SYMPATHIZERS ALSO DEMONSTRATED  
IN FRONT OF IRANIAN EMBASSY IN STOCKHOLM ON SATURDAY  
AFTER MARCHING THROUGH DOWNTOWN AREA.

3. IRANIAN EMBASSY ISSUED PRESS RELEASE DATED JANUARY 7  
WHICH DEFENDED CONVICTIONS ON GROUNDS CONVICTED MEN HAD  
ENGAGED IN PURELY CRIMINAL ACTS WITHOUT ANY POLITICAL  
ASPECTS WHATSOEVER. STATEMENT SPECIFIED MURDER OF THREE  
US CITIZENS (COLONELS HAWKINS, TURNER AND SHEFFER) AND  
FIVE IRANIANS AS WELL AS STEALING OF ARMS AND ARMED  
ROBBERY.

4. IN ITS REPORTING OF CONVICTIONS OF IRANIAN TERRORISTS,  
LOCAL PRESS HAS NOT REFERRED TO FACT THAT THE CONDEMNED  
ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MURDERS OF AMERICAN OFFICERS.  
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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## Message Attributes

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